Loveland Ski Area Expansion 2020

Silviculture Issues

Additional Treatment to Original Proposal

- Cut and remove hazard trees (dying/dead conifers up to 150% of the height of the tree) adjacent to the newly constructed parking areas and ski runs.
- Follow Spruce Beetle Activity direction, below.

Windthrow

- Areas adjacent to the openings (e.g. parking lots, ski runs) will have increased susceptibility to windthrow in residual trees previously not directly exposed to wind conditions.
- Susceptible species: (lodgepole pine, Engelmann spruce, blue spruce)

- Mitigations
    - ❖ Following windthrow events, remove windthrown spruce up to 5" DBH after beetle colonization and before brood beetles develop.
    - ❖ During stand treatments, minimize stump heights, cut green spruce cull logs into short lengths, and lop and scatter slash to maximize exposure to sunlight. Slash can be masticated or chipped in addition to lop and scatter.
    - ❖ Annually monitor and implement above mitigations for 5 years post the initial treatment.

Spruce Beetle Activity

- The Loveland Ski Area vicinity should be evaluated for current condition of spruce beetle activity.
- Susceptible species: (Engelmann spruce, blue spruce)
- Spruce beetle activity may already be present in either down or standing dead trees in the vicinity.

- Mitigations
    - ❖ Remove spruce beetle infested trees within newly developed and adjacent infrastructure (e.g. parking lots and ski run expansion). This can be accomplished in combination with beetle attack susceptibility reduction such as stand basal area reduction. The activities should be designed in order to minimize future windthrow potential.

- In proposed cut areas, cut and remove all Engelmann spruce and blue spruce up to 5” DBH.
- During stand treatments, minimize stump heights, cut green spruce cull logs into short lengths, and lop and scatter slash to maximize exposure to sunlight. Slash can be masticated or chipped in addition to lop and scatter.
- Annually monitor and implement above mitigations for 5 years post the initial treatment.